

CHOSEN PARAGRAPHS FROM THE LAND OF "CHOSEN"

CHANGES:

The German ambition to rule the world (written in April) is not the only force that brought changes to the even tenor of the way at Chairyung, Chosen. Ambition in the humble heart of one of the faithful helpers at the hospital, moved the officials who have the welfare of the Koreans at heart, to give a limited license to practice the healing art to this man. Like the Arabs of poetic fame, he rolled up his tent and all his possessions, kettle, changes, an assortment of children, and wife, and shaking off the dust of our city moved across the plain, lowing as he went. Tai Ten is his destination, a hospital his ambition. Long may he prosper!

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AN UNHEARD OF THING

One of the patients in the Syenchun hospital was a little blind girl of thirteen years. She came alone on the train from a neighboring town and asked to be directed to Pastor McGane's home, for she was sure he could help her get in the school. When Dr. Sharrocks and Miss Ingerson examined her eyes, it was found there was no hope for the sight, but an application of ointment would relieve the inflammation. While we were discussing the case an ex-woman patient who was visiting the hospital, spoke up and said that if no one else wanted the child, she would be glad to take her home with her. It was hard to believe it, and she said it again. Such an unheard of thing for a Korean woman with no children to offer to adopt a little blind girl. Of course the woman is a Christian and the girl has believed since she was seven years old. Her parents are dead and she is all alone in the world. All she knows about the Bible she has learned from what she has been told. The husband of the woman came and was delighted with the child. This is throwing all Korean customs to the winds, but it is good to know that the people are getting bigger and higher ideals.

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HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

At a meeting of the Bible Class for women at Chairyung, the Woman's Home Missionary Society of Whang Hai Presbytery was organized at the initiation of the two Korean pastors present. The membership is divided into three classes according to the amount paid in, and the membership increased greatly when the women present returned to their homes and told others of the plan. The object of the society is to have the Gospel preached to the Korean women especially to those on the Island of Quelpart.

ITINERATING EXPERIENCES

In Huchang Kol, two Chinamen came in to the evening service, One of them had greeted the missionary as he came into town that afternoon, in broken English which he had picked up in an American mine. They were both very reverent through the service but it was plain to be seen that they did not understand what was being said.

"After the benediction the Koreans began talking to them, and suddenly turned to me and said that the one who did not know English was a Christian. He produced a dirty crumpled paper, which I made out to be the certificate of his confirmation by a French Father in Hunan, written in Latin." "After we had gone out of the meeting house," continued the missionary, "he took my hand in both of his and with tears in his eyes beamed on me. His companion said in Korean - 'He couldn't understand a word you said, but he believes every bit of it. Your mind and his mind are just the same.' I was very sorry that I had not offered him the Communion."

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HIDDEN WITH CHRIST

In a group in the Down River Circuit of the Kangkai field the growth has been so rapid that they have spread out into three, have purchased a meeting house, and when the missionary visited them, 12 adults were ready for baptism and eight were admitted to the catechumenate. A young deacon is responsible for it all. Just after he began to believe, he was awakened at night by a voice which told him to read Colossians 3:1-4. He looked about the room, but saw no one. The command was repeated. He did not know what Colossians was, but after the words were repeated again several times, he thought of his newly bought New Testament, and wondered if it might be in there. So he arose and lit the light, and finally found the passage and read: "If ye then were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on the earth. For ye died and your life is hid with Christ in God, etc."

Since then he has tried to set his thoughts on high, to reckon himself dead and hid with Christ in God, and to look for his Life from heaven.

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DOING HER BIT

"Hours have been spent" writes a Kangkai missionary, "in canning fruit and vegetables, drying the same, making butter, smoking our bacon and ham from the pig we raised during the year. This all makes it possible for us to live off this country, and ask for no thing to be sent from the U. S. A., thus helping to do our bit in conserving the home supply."



A STEADFAST DISCIPLE

In a mountain group, out from Langkai is a deacon who is a splendid example of steadfastness and devotion although suffering severe persecution. His father is not only not a Christian, but a severe persecutor of his son, and just recently threatened to disown him. The young deacon has a little son, five years of age. He plans to give this son to the church, with his consent, and is looking forward to the preparation for this work. His wife, equally devoted gave her wedding ring toward the Academy endowment fund, not with a view to enlarge the fund so much, but as a sort of a pledge of their future loyalty in carrying out the purpose of sending their boy to the academy in preparation for his life work.

The mother-in-law too, although but a few months a believer, is going to "do her bit" by raising a pig and giving the proceeds of the sale to the academy.

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UNDER DIFFICULTIES

At a church on the Yalu River, four members of the congregation lived on the opposite side of the river, quite a long distance away. They were all examined for the catechumenate, and then the missionary was amazed to learn that they had been coming to the service for months in spite of the fact that it took three days of each week. Saturday to come, the Sunday spent in worship, and the Monday returning. Keeping the Sabbath under such difficulties must have a rich reward.

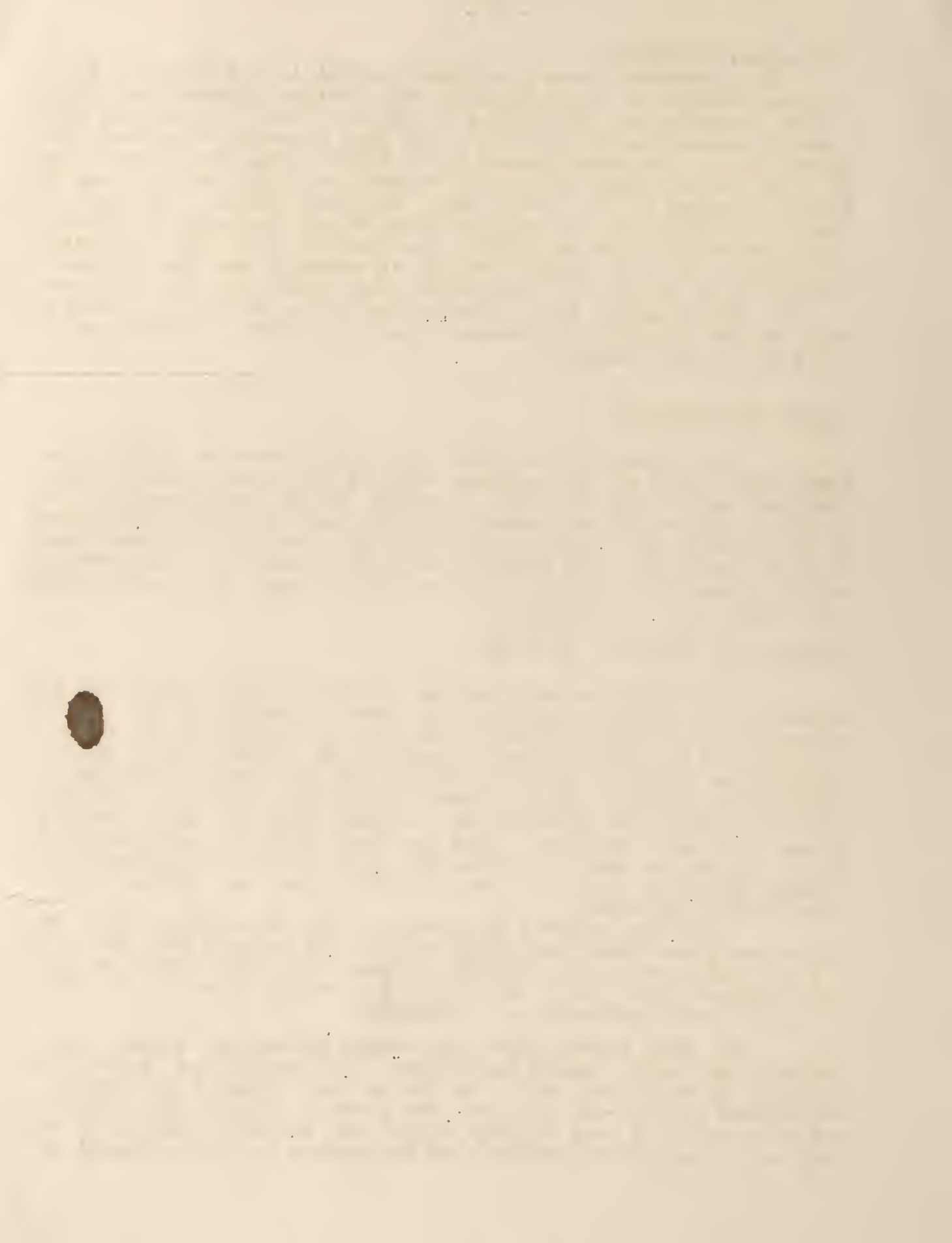
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LEADING HER CHILDREN TO CHRIST

An elderly woman presented herself to the missionary for baptism. She proved herself to be rather ignorant of the essential doctrines, but upon inquiry as to her sincerity, it was found that she had been the means of leading her daughter with all her children to Christ. Both were widows and have been eking out a living from a little plot of ground they were renting. The old woman who could not possibly save anything for the Sunday collections, made it a practise, after the harvesting of beans to go out in the fields to hunt for occasional beans that had dropped to the ground, which she would afterward sell and use the proceeds as her contribution on Sunday.

With the purpose of finding a way to attend a Class two miles away, she gathered various grasses and carried the to the k t ten miles away. She finally accumulated enough money to pay her expenses while gone, and walked the twenty miles to the Class to spend a week studying the Scriptures.

At this church where this woman lives, the leader and his wife are very earnest Christians. The church was built almost entirely by them, and the means for it they obtained by denying themselves the mid-day meal for two years. They keep a small inn and no guest goes away without having the Gospel presented to them. They keep a supply of portions of Scriptures on hand and sell to



guests, about a hundred of them a year. This past year the man out of his scanty means supported an evangelist for one month to work in their church. His wifewalks every night up the hill not far from their home to engage in quiet prayer. This, by the way, is a common occurrence among the Christians, as it is also the custom to go to the church before daylight to spend a season of prayer.

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SAVED PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY

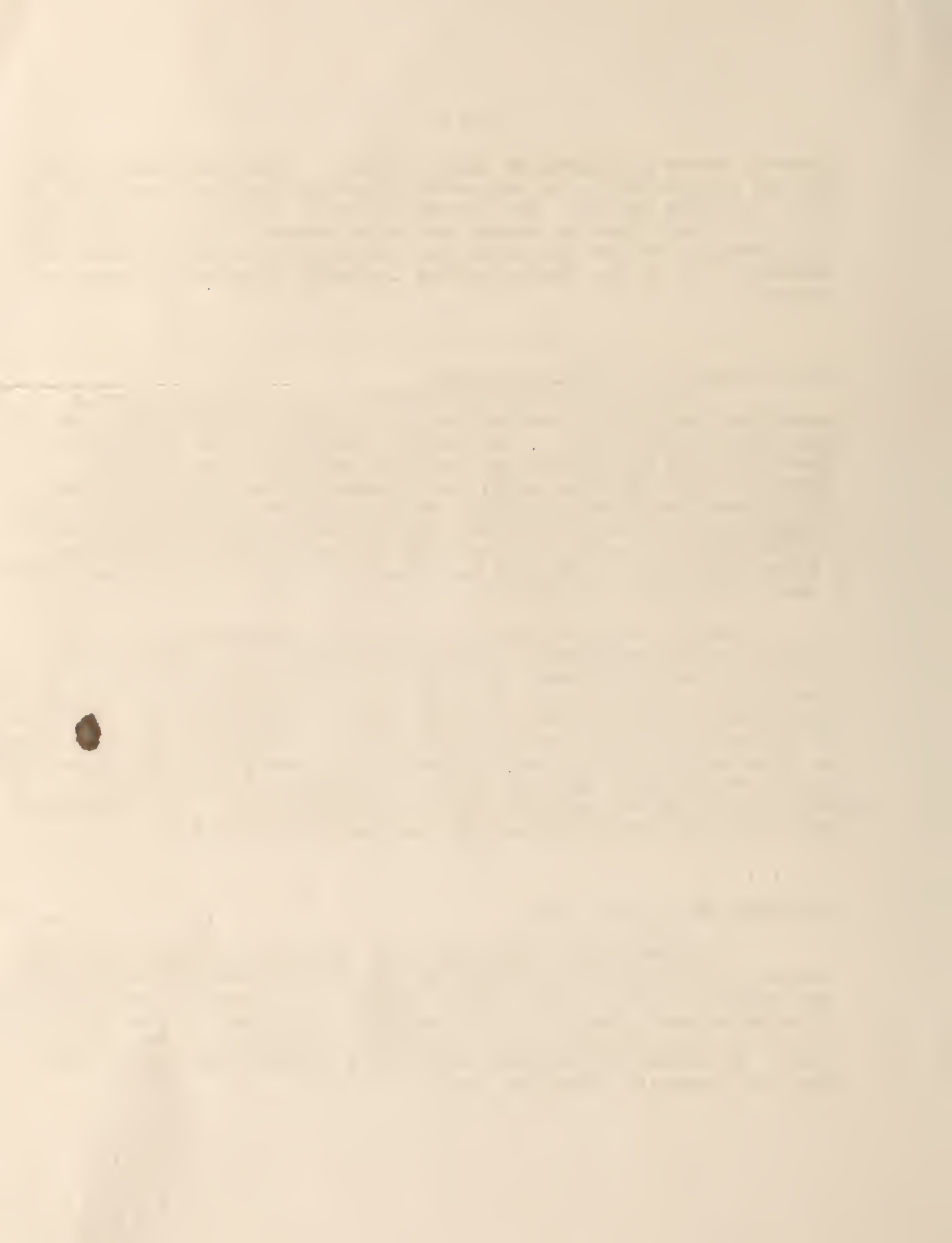
Over a year ago a woman lost her mind and started wandering around the country, begging, sleeping anywhere, and eating what she could get. Her family brought her to the Kangkai Church to get the Christians to drive the devil out of her. At first she kept running away, but gradually she began to regain her reason and listen intently to the prayers, then she purchased a hymn book and New Testament, then began to pray herself, and in the course of a month was not only in sound mind but an earnest seeker after the truth, and has since been most faithful in attendance at the church services.

Not far from the church was a man paralyzed in both legs. Hearing of the woman who "had been possessed of a devil" being healed by the Christians, he decided to become a Christian that he too might be healed. Too far away from the church he could not attend, but at the time of the winter men's class, one of the Christians invited him to stay at his house. So the man borrowed a cow to ride to the church, and for seven days was fed by the Christians while four times a day one of the attendants at the class carried him on his back up the hill to the church and back. The Christians have been earnestly praying that he might be healed.

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STANDING UP FOR THE RIGHT

A fifteen year old girl, not even yet baptized, has absolutely refused to be married by her non-Christian father to a man outside of the church and no amount of persuasion and persecution moved her. She is a very earnest Christian, and is in the habit of retiring morning and evening to a hill back of the house to pray. No doubt she derives much of her courage from this quiet hour of communion with the Lord.



INDEPENDENCE OF JUDGMENT

The following incident is remarkable when one considers what absolute nonentities the Korean girls have always been in their homes: -

The non-Christian father of a young girl betrothes her when she was a child to a young man whom he took into his home to work for him until the girl should come of age. Later, the father sent her to Christian schools. When she returned home after graduating, she found that her father had come to the conclusion that she was too good for the man to whom she had been betrothed, and that a marriage much more, advantageous could be arranged.

The father, however, left out of consideration the fact that the Christian experience and education in Christian schools taught the girl independence of judgment and a true sense of the right. The young man had worked for his bride as Jacob for Rachel, and whatever hidden feelings the girl might have had for him, she at any rate was not going to be the cause of her father's breaking the sacred contract. She refused to be induced to marry any other man no matter how much higher position in society he might be, and insisted upon the original contract being fulfilled.

The father had to give in at last, and the educated daughter was married to the hired man. The next day after the wedding, the girl was taken according to custom to pay her respects to her husband's family. When she arrived she was shown into a fine room in a prosperous-looking house. Knowing that her parents-in-law were very poor, she quickly found out that her husband was ashamed to take her to their house, but had borrowed a room of a relative.

The girl had too much pride to stay in a borrowed house, and insisted on going to the home of her parents-in-law however humble it might be. At present this "new woman" is the school mistress at Changyun.

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